

Special Studies and Evaluation

Office of Policy and Evaluation California Department of Education

Evaluation of Title VI Effectiveness

The California Department of Education (CDE) is participating in a national evaluation of the effectiveness of programs assisted under Title VI in FY 1997-98. Questionnaires developed by the Title VI National Steering Committee will be used to compile state and national reports that assess and describe the impact of the Title VI program from the school year 1995-96 through 1997-98.

Background

Title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Act, as amended by the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994, is a federal program that provides flexible formula funding to public schools and services to private, nonprofit schools nationally to implement and support innovative education projects based on the needs of a district and its schools.

In California, the majority of Title VI funds statewide are budgeted for programs for the acquisition and use of instructional and educational materials, including library services and materials (including reference materials), computer hardware and software for instructional use, and other instructional materials and assessments.

Focus of the Evaluation

The data collected will focus on the following themes regarding the Title VI program:

- Students and student achievement
- Curricula, instruction and assessment--the improvement of instructional services
- The ability of states, school districts and schools to assess and address their educational needs, develop innovative and effective educational practices, and implement promising reform initiatives.

Respondents will be asked to fill out only those sections and survey items that are applicable to their Title VI-funded activities. The questionnaire is organized into 5 sections that ask for both qualitative and quantitative data. They are:

- District/school use of Title VI funds
- Title VI impact on students
- Title VI impact on the improvement of instructional services
- Title VI impact on educational innovation and local reform efforts
- Recommendations for improving the Title VI program
- Exemplary Title VI programs.

Methodology

The evaluation questionnaires will be sent to a representative sample of California school districts and cooperatives and private, nonprofit schools in mid-July 1998. Questionnaires will also be sent to the Title VI-funded priority projects and CDE staff will be interviewed.

Report of Findings

A final report of findings including implications for federal policy makers will be prepared by September 1998.

Contacts

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This summary was prepared by Special Studies and Evaluation (SSE), Office of Policy and Evaluation, California Department of Education. The summary and other information about SSE services and products are located on the Internet at <www.cde.ca.gov/ftpbranch/ope/sse>.